Drummond, Andrew Thomas

April-May 1917

(75)

Conference

666

A. T. Drummond 1917

Cable Address, "Kinbrae"
Telephone, Main 4579 Midwest 2630

292 Russell Hill Road
Toronto

9th April 1917

Dear President Falconer

More than a year ago when advocating the importance, in our universities and higher schools, of less specializing in the dead languages, and more specializing in the history, literature, languages, &c of, especially modern European nations, I brought the matter before both our own Governments here and at Ottawa, and the Education Department at London, Eng.; and to the Governments suggested that hereafter under the new Imperial regime, the graduates from the universities of the Dominions should have their opportunities, equally with the Oxford and Cambridge men, for entering the diplomatic, consular, trade commission and other services of Great Britain all over the world, wherever the Empire is represented. Recently, I drew the attention to this of the leading members of the Imperial Conference, that it might be, at any rate privately, discussed among them.

If this should be your view also, and the matter appears sufficiently important, it would carry weight if the University communicated directly with the Premier who is expected to remain in London until the close of the month.

Our graduates would, of course, only become especially useful when they are versed in the literature, history, political and other institutions and the customs, and can speak and correspond in the language, of the country to which as legation secretaries, commercial and other attaches, consuls, trade commissioners or ambassadors they are accredited.

In this connection, I may add that I have, among some other matters, also brought before the members of the Imperial Conference, the suggestion that there should be combination of effort in scientific and industrial research between Great Britain and the Dominions and Colonies under which there would be (a) systematized financial aid from the governments to the universities and scientific institutions in Great Britain and the Dominions actually engaged in research (b) cooperation and exchange of ideas between these universities and institutions in Great Britain and the Dominions in research developments in respect to discoveries made in materials, methods and combinations; material found in any one country; and new appliances (c) preferences within the Empire in respect to discoveries.

Yours faithfully

A. T. Drummond

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April 12th, 1917

Dear Dr. Drummond:

I think that probably the best way in which the question of larger scope for our students in the diplomatic service in the Empire could be brought to the attention of the Imperial authorities would be through the Conference of the Universities of the Dominion. This Conference meets in Ottawa on May 24th and 25th, and if you wish to have any communication presented to it I shall be glad to lay it before the Conference, and if they take action upon it the Universities would then do so as a body. This method seems to me at once the simplest and most effective.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Dr. A. T. Drummond,

292 Russell Hill Road,

Toronto.

Conference

A. T. Drummond & Co.

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Cable Address, "Kinbrae"
Telephone, Main 4579
Hillcrest 2160

292 Russell Hill Road

Toronto, 10th May 1917

Dear President Falconer

I now enclose a brief memorandum on the subject referred to in my last letter, and have added to it another subject -- Empire co-operation in research -- which may at least interest the Conference of Universities and possibly suggest some action which may be helpful in view of apparently favourable attitude of the Imperial Conference towards it in general terms.

I am sending a copy of this memorandum to Dean Cappon of Queen's University who expects to be present at the Conference of Universities

Yours faithfully

A. T. Drummond

May 11th, 1917

A. T. Drummond, Esq.,

Toronto.

Dear Dr. Drummond:

I will lay the memorandum which you sent me before the Conference of the Universities.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.